

REMARKS

Amendment To Claims

In addition to the amendment discussed below, Applicants are also amending the claims to correct minor informalities therein.

Applicants are also amending the withdrawn claims in a similar manner as the pending claims. It is respectfully submitted that these claims should be allowed for at least the same reasons as the pending claims.

Applicants will now address each of the Examiner's objections and rejections in the order in which they appear in the Office Action.

Drawings

In the Office Action, the Examiner is requesting that Fig. 2 be labeled "Prior Art." Accordingly, Applicants are amending Fig. 2 to add the legend "Prior Art." In light of this amendment, it is respectfully requested that this objection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

The Examiner rejects Claims 1, 4-6, 7, 13-15, 18-19, 20-22 and 25 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Liao et al. (US 6,717,358). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

While Applicants traverse this rejection, in order to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants are amending each of the independent claims to recite the feature of "the fourth layer is in contact with the second electrode." This feature is supported by, for example, Fig. 1 and page 8, line 5 to page 9, line 28 of the specification of the present application.

In contrast, in the rejection, the Examiner contends that layer 133 (of connecting unit 130) in Liao is the alleged fourth layer containing a hole-transporting medium and that cathode 140 is the alleged second electrode. However, layer 133 is not in contact with cathode 140. Therefore, Liao does not disclose or suggest this claimed feature.

Therefore, the claims of the present application are not disclosed or suggested by Liao, and the claims are patentable over Liao. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

The Examiner also has the following rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a):

- A. Claims 16-17 and 23 are rejected as being unpatentable over Liao et al. in view of Matsumoto et al. (US 2005/0098207).
- B. Claim 24 is rejected as being unpatentable over Liao et al. in view of Yamazaki et al. (US 6,734,457).

Each of these rejections is also respectfully traversed.

Each of these claims is a dependent claim. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above for the independent claims, each of these claims is also patentable over the cited references. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Double Patenting

The Examiner also rejects Claims 1, 4-7, 13-17, 18-19 and 20-25 provisionally on the grounds of non statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 15-31 of copending application no. 10/575,202 (or US 2007/0090376). This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

While Applicants traverse this rejection, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be held in abeyance until the prior art rejections are overcome and the claims are in their final form.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and should be allowed.

If any fee should be due for this amendment, please charge our deposit account 50/1039.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Date: October 10, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

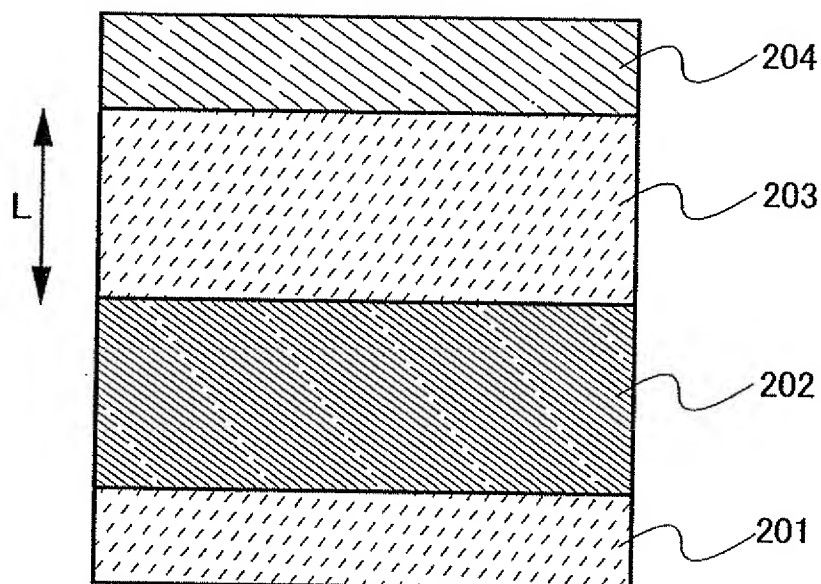
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FIG. 2



Prior Art